

TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND
Easton Town Hall
14 S. Harrison Street
Redistricting Workshop

November 14, 2011

PRESENT AT CONVENING

1	1	Mayor Robert C. Willey	4	Councilmember Pete Leshner
2	2	Council President John Ford	5	Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski, Sr.
3	3	Councilmember Kelley K. Malone	6	Councilmember Megan M. Cook

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were the Town Manager Mr. Karge, Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch, Town Planner Mr. Thomas and Town Clerk Mrs. Ruf.

CONVENING

President Ford called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEETING

President Ford discussed the reason for redistricting.

The Town Attorney discussed the history of the wards and the process of election redistricting.

President Ford stated that this workshop is preliminary and will require public hearings.

Discussion occurred regarding keeping a majority minority ward.

The Town Attorney referred to her memorandum sent to the Council on November 4, 2011 regarding redistricting.

The Town Attorney stated that the guidelines should be guidelines and not firm rules.

Ms. VanEmburch stated that the Election Board needs changes in Wards by January 2013 for the upcoming election.

President Ford stated that land use should be considered.

It was the consensus of the council to support the current structure with a majority minority ward and that the delineation of neighborhoods should be kept intact with contiguous clean lines to the greatest extent possible. Discussion occurred regarding districting incumbents out.

President Ford stated that this will be a more than one workshop activity.

At 6:47 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, President Ford moved into Closed Session for the Advice of Counsel and Business Retention.

At 7:19 p.m., President Ford re-convened into Regular Session.

Mr. Karge discussed receiving a response back from Tischler regarding the pavilion at Ratcliffe. He stated that the pavilion should not be considered for impact fees as it is solely restricted for the residents in the development.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, President Ford adjourned the workshop at 7:23 p.m.

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk